REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 14, 2006. Claims 1-11 are currently pending.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claim 9.

Claim 1 stands rejected under Section 112, first paragraph, in section 2 of the Office Action. The Office Action Examiner contends that "when the file icon is not located over the print icon" is not supported by the instant specification. This Section 112 is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons. Claim 1 requires that print conditions are displayed on the display picture in a recognizable display form when the file icon is not located over the print icon. Fig. 2 and the instant application at page 11, lines 6-24, clearly illustrate and describe an example where print conditions are displayed in a recognizable form when the file icon is not located over the print icon. Thus, the instant specification supports this claims, and this Section 112, first paragraph, rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 stands rejected under Section 112, second paragraph, in section 3 of the Office Action. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 has been amended herein to address and overcome any potential issue in this regard.

Claim 1 – Art Rejection

Claim 1 also stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Fitzpatrick in view of Hemenway. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 requires that "the print icon is formed so that the display is altered according to a setting of the print conditions in said print icon, and said print conditions are displayed on said display picture in a *recognizable display form* when the file icon is not located over the print icon

.... the print icon to which the file icon is dragged and dropped is an icon which limits on a specific function among print processing functions provided in a corresponding printer, and which issues a print command by a function which specifies the file icon for the printer when the file icon is dragged and dropped on the print icon, and wherein *the print icon can be generated on a screen of the display as a printer icon which is capable of directly designating at least one frequently used function among print processing functions possessed by the printer.*" Since print conditions may be displayed in accordance with a shape of a printer icon, when a document file is made dragging and dropping onto a printer icon, the printing conditions can be recognized without a particular operation such as hovering so that efficiency and convenience can be significantly improved in certain example embodiments of this invention. Moreover, in certain example embodiments of this invention, the print icon can be prepared to be a print icon capable of issuing a printer order by designating a desired function(s) among print processing functions which are possessed by the printer. The cited art fails to disclose or suggest the aforesaid quoted features of claim 1.

Fitzpatrick discloses a technique related to issuing printer orders of a file to a printer by dropping a dragged file icon b a mouse operation, onto a print icon. When the file icon is superposed on the print icon, a window picture for parameter setting is displayed so that it becomes possible to identify the print conditions.

However, claim 1 requires that *the print icon can be generated on a screen/desktop as a printer icon which is capable of directly designating at least one frequently used function among print processing functions possessed by the printer.* Fitzpatrick (and Hemenway) fails to disclose or suggest this feature. In particular, the print icon of claim 1 can be generated/prepared on an operating screen/desktop as a print icon capable of issuing a print order(s) by directly

designating an often-utilized function(s) among print processing functions/features possessed by the printer. This is advantageous, for example, in that the user can optionally generate the icon by selecting a frequently utilized function(s) among print processing functions possessed by the printer. In contrast, Fitzpatrick fails to disclose or suggest that the print icon can be generated as required by claim 1. It is unclear how the print icon of Fitzpatrick is prepared. For example, if Fitzpatrick's print icon were prepared beforehand by a vendor who provided the print system, it would not be possible to generate the print icon on a desktop/screen which would be frequently used by a user.

Thus, even the alleged combination (which applicant believes would be incorrect in any event) still fails to meet the invention of claim 1.

Furthermore, Fitzpatrick discloses that a dragged document icon is hovered over a print icon for a few seconds. By continued hovering of the document icon over/on the print icon, a dialog box for altering print conditions is displayed. Thus, Fitzpatrick discloses that print conditions are displayed when a certain operation is made on a printer icon, but that print conditions cannot be recognized unless the operation is carried out. In particular, in Fitzpatrick print conditions are displayed *only* when such hovering over/on the print icon is performed. Accordingly, it can be seen that Fitzpatrick *fails* to disclose or suggest that print conditions are displayed on said display picture in a *recognizable display form when the file icon is not located over the print icon* as required by claim 1. Instead, Fitzpatrick teaches directly away from this aspect of claim 1 and cannot render the same unpatentable. In this respect, Hemenway also fails to disclose or suggest that "print conditions are displayed on said display picture in a *recognizable display form* when the file icon is not located over the print icon" as required by claim 1. Hemenway discloses that print conditions are displayed on a different window; hence it

is very inconvenient for recognizing when dragging and dropping is carried out. Since both cited references fail to disclose or suggest at least the "recognizable display form" aspect of claim 1, then even the alleged combination (which is incorrect in any event) fails to meet the invention of claim 1 for this additional reason.

Claim 3 – Art Rejection

Claim 3 stands rejected under Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Fitzpatrick. This Section 103(a) rejection is incorrect and is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 3 requires that *"at a time point when a file icon of a file to be printed is superposed on said print icon, a printing preview of the file icon's associated file to be printed is displayed on said display picture."* For example, see the instant specification at pg. 4, lines 20-25; pg. 18, lines 9-15; and Figs. 7 and 11. As shown in Figs. 7 and 11 for example, a "printing preview" as called for in claim 3 is an image of at least part of what is going to be printed. This is advantageous, for example, in that it permits a user to view and confirm contents of a file to be printed without having to open the file on an application (e.g., pg. 18, lines 12-15).

Fitzpatrick fails to disclose or suggest the aforesaid quoted aspect of claim 3. A "printing preview" as called for in claim 3 is an image of at least part of what is going to be printed as shown in Figs. 7 and 11. Fitzpatrick does not display such a printing preview of the file icon when the file icon is superposed on the print icon. There is nothing in Fitzpatrick even remotely related to this aspect of claim 3. Thus, the Section 103(a) rejection of claim 3 is incorrect and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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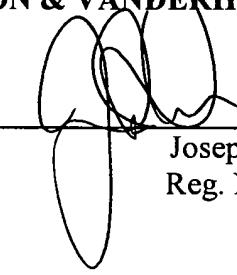
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